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Monthly Employee Earnings Indicator

Experimental estimates of employee earnings, sourced from Single Touch Payroll (STP) data

Reference period April to September 2024

Released 20/11/2024

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Key statistics

In September 2024, total wages and salaries paid by employers:

- increased to \$103,723 million
- increased by 3.9% or \$3,855 million in the month from August 2024
- increased by 6.3% or \$6,192 million in the year from September 2023

As a measure of aggregate earnings, estimates presented in this release include compositional changes in the labour market, which are described in more detail in <u>Factors affecting interpretation (https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/monthly-employee-earnings-indicator-methodology/april-september-2024#factors-affecting-interpretation)</u>.

Industry subdivision estimates

Data download tables now include estimates of total wages and salaries paid by employers by industry subdivision.

Quarterly releases in 2025

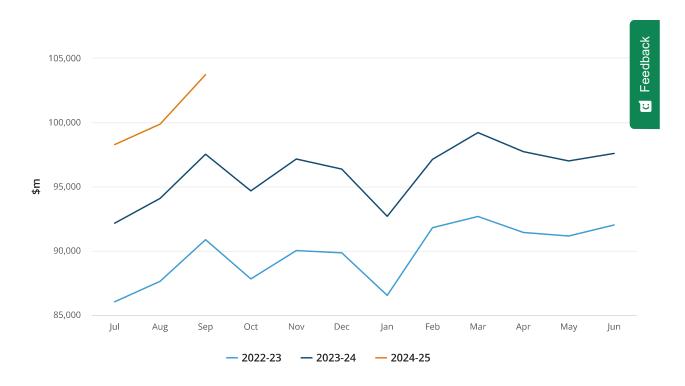
The Monthly Employee Earnings Indicator release cadence has moved to quarterly from this release. Refer to Monthly Employee Earnings Indicator | Australian Bureau of Statistics (https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/

National
Wages and salaries paid by employers, month key statistics

	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24
Month change (%)	-1.5	-0.7	0.6	0.7	1.6	3.9
Annual change (%)	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.1	6.3
Total wages and salaries (\$m)	97,730	97,007	97,594	98,275	99,868	103,723

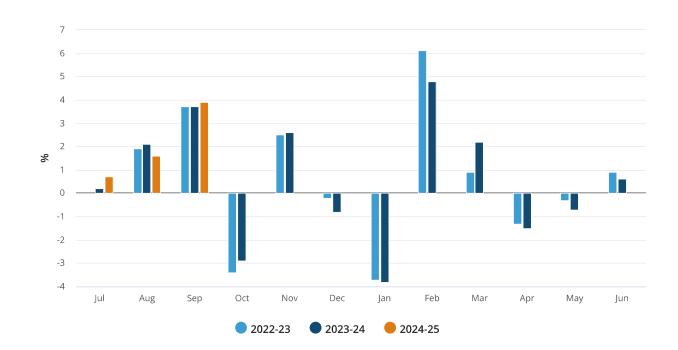
Estimates are presented as an original series with calendar-adjustment, to account for the differing number of days in each month, as seasonally adjusted estimates are not yet available.

Wages and salaries paid by employers(a)



a. The leap year day in 2024 alters the seasonal change usually seen in February and March. For more information see the leap year effect section within Factors affecting interpretation (https://www.abs.gov.au/methodologies/monthly-employee-earnings-indicator-methodology/april-september-2024#factors-affecting-interpretation).

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers(a)



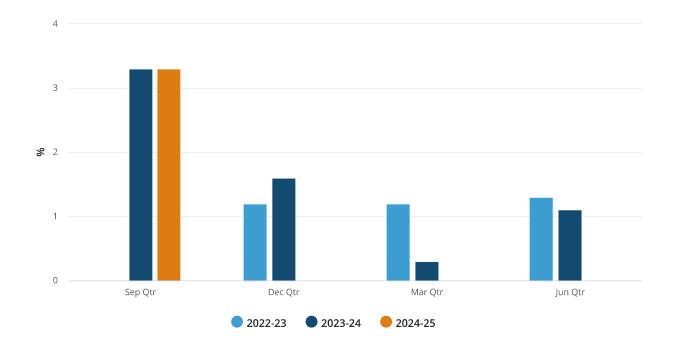
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Estimates of change throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded \$ million values. They may differ from though are more accurate than change calculated from rounded values.

Wages and salaries paid by employers, quarter key statistics

	Sep Qtr 23	Dec Qtr 23	Mar Qtr 24	Jun Qtr 24	Sep Qtr 24
Quarter change (%)	3.3	1.6	0.3	1.1	3.3
Annual quarter change (%)	7.3	7.7	6.7	6.5	6.4
Total wages and salaries (\$m)	283,776	288,179	289,027	292,332	301,866

Quarter change in wages and salaries paid by employers



State and territory

In September 2024, wages and salaries paid by employers rose in 7 of 8 states and territories from August 2024.

- New South Wales saw the largest level rise of \$1,276m (3.9%)
- Victoria saw the largest proportional increase of 4.5% (\$1,125m)

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by state and territory





Month change

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by state and territory

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
New South Wales	-1.7	-1.2	1.1	0.0	1.6	3.9
Victoria	-1.4	-0.8	0.5	0.4	1.7	4.5
Queensland	-0.8	0.1	0.7	1.7	1.3	3.9
South Australia	-0.4	-1.1	-0.4	1.3	1.5	3.4
Western Australia	-2.7	-0.9	0.3	1.1	2.0	3.8
Tasmania	-3.6	-0.9	-0.2	0.5	1.1	2.8
Northern Territory	-0.2	0.2	0.2	1.0	5.3	-1.9
Australian Capital Territory	-1.0	0.7	-0.2	1.4	1.2	1.6
Australia	-1.5	-0.7	0.6	0.7	1.6	3.9

Annual change

Annual change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by state and territory

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
New South Wales	6.2	5.8	5.5	6.1	5.4	5.3
Victoria	5.5	5.1	5.1	5.0	5.4	6.3
Queensland	8.1	7.3	6.9	8.8	7.0	8.0
South Australia	7.0	6.4	5.7	6.4	5.9	5.6

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
Western Australia	9.0	8.8	8.0	7.8	7.8	7.0
Tasmania	8.2	7.4	5.8	7.2	5.5	6.0
Northern Territory	5.2	5.6	5.5	4.5	5.6	3.5
Australian Capital Territory	9.8	9.4	8.8	8.9	9.1	7.5
Australia	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.1	6.3

Total wages and salaries (\$m)

Wages and salaries paid by employers, by state and territory

	Apr-24 (\$m)	May-24 (\$m)	Jun-24 (\$m)	Jul-24 (\$m)	Aug-24 (\$m)	Sep-24 (\$m)
New South Wales	32,223	31,846	32,187	32,198	32,713	33,989
Victoria	24,386	24,184	24,298	24,400	24,810	25,935
Queensland	18,407	18,430	18,557	18,871	19,118	19,856
South Australia	5,702	5,640	5,617	5,689	5,776	5,973
Western Australia	11,572	11,463	11,498	11,621	11,851	12,295
Tasmania	1,664	1,648	1,645	1,653	1,672	1,719
Northern Territory	987	989	990	1,000	1,054	1,033
Australian Capital Territory	2,789	2,808	2,801	2,842	2,875	2,923
Australia	97,730	97,007	97,594	98,275	99,868	103

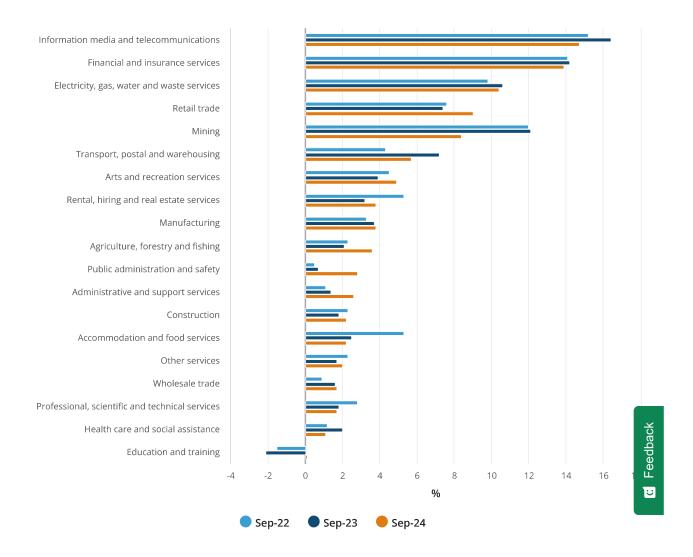
Industry

In September 2024, wages and salaries paid by employers rose in all industries from August 2024.

Industries with monthly increases over 5% in September 2024 are influenced by cyclical bonuses around this time each year.

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by industry(a)

c Feedback



a. Industries are ranked by descending month change in September 2024.

Month change

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by industry(a)

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	6.1	-0.6	-2.9	-0.7	3.0	3.6
Mining	-14.2	-2.7	0.4	0.0	5.9	8.4
Manufacturing	-3.0	-2.4	0.3	0.6	1.2	3.8
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	-2.3	-2.5	0.4	6.5	-0.6	10.4
Construction	1.5	0.6	0.2	1.2	0.3	2.2
Wholesale trade	-4.1	-3.3	2.4	0.8	0.0	1.7
Retail trade	-0.3	-2.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	9.0
Accommodation and food services	3.4	-2.8	-0.3	3.1	1.9	2.2
Transport, postal and warehousing	0.4	-1.8	-0.2	0.6	1.5	5.7

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
Information media and telecommunications	-3.1	-1.4	3.2	-2.2	6.2	14.7
Financial and insurance services	-8.8	0.9	0.2	0.5	2.7	13.9
Rental, hiring and real estate services	-2.3	-0.7	1.5	0.7	1.8	3.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	-1.1	-1.3	2.3	0.1	1.1	1.7
Administrative and support services	1.1	1.2	-0.2	2.0	-0.2	2.6
Public administration and safety	-0.5	0.5	-0.4	1.6	2.0	2.8
Education and training	-0.7	1.9	-0.8	-1.6	4.4	0.1
Health care and social assistance	-0.3	-0.9	1.2	0.5	0.9	1.1
Arts and recreation services	0.3	-2.9	0.7	0.0	2.2	4.9
Other services	1.2	0.5	0.2	1.1	1.5	2.0
All industries	-1.5	-0.7	0.6	0.7	1.6	3.9

a. Some industries experience pronounced seasonality in wages and salaries paid by employers, which can affect the interpretation of change between months and industries.

Annual change

Annual change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by industry(a)

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-2 (%
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	4.3	2.7	2.0	3.9	3.8	
Mining	10.0	9.0	7.6	6.6	7.6	
Manufacturing	7.1	6.3	6.2	6.4	5.9	6
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	15.2	12.8	12.7	17.6	13.2	13
Construction	7.8	7.1	6.7	8.2	7.2	7
Wholesale trade	4.9	4.8	5.1	6.2	5.7	5
Retail trade	4.7	5.8	5.4	5.9	4.6	6
Accommodation and food services	3.3	3.3	2.7	3.0	3.2	2
Transport, postal and warehousing	6.3	6.6	5.3	6.2	6.4	4
Information media and telecommunications	3.1	2.4	3.3	5.3	5.9	4
Financial and insurance services	3.5	4.4	3.7	4.3	4.6	4
Rental, hiring and real estate services	6.2	6.1	4.1	5.3	4.9	į
Professional, scientific and technical services	4.4	3.6	3.0	3.8	3.5	;
Administrative and support services	4.2	3.0	4.0	3.6	3.1	4
Public administration and safety	10.1	9.6	8.9	8.6	9.5	1
Education and training	9.3	7.5	7.2	7.4	4.9	7
Health care and social assistance	9.7	9.5	9.5	9.8	9.0	
Arts and recreation services	6.0	5.5	3.9	5.4	5.4	(
Other services	8.2	7.4	6.8	7.7	7.8	
All industries	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.1	

a. Some industries experience pronounced seasonality in wages and salaries paid by employers, which can affect the interpretation of change between months and industries.

Total wages and salaries (\$m)

Wages and salaries paid by employers, by industry(a)

	Apr-24 (\$m)	May-24 (\$m)	Jun-24 (\$m)	Jul-24 (\$m)	Aug-24 (\$m)	Sep-24 (\$m)
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	1,110	1,104	1,072	1,065	1,097	1,136
Mining	3,422	3,331	3,343	3,344	3,541	3,840
Manufacturing	6,310	6,157	6,174	6,209	6,284	6,521
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	1,512	1,475	1,481	1,577	1,567	1,730
Construction	8,397	8,451	8,465	8,568	8,596	8,787
Wholesale trade	4,612	4,459	4,566	4,600	4,602	4,682
Retail trade	5,718	5,588	5,651	5,705	5,750	6,265
Accommodation and food services	3,503	3,406	3,395	3,499	3,566	3,644
Transport, postal and warehousing	4,109	4,034	4,026	4,050	4,112	4,346
Information media and telecommunications	2,038	2,009	2,074	2,029	2,156	2,473
Financial and insurance services	5,379	5,427	5,439	5,465	5,610	6,390
Rental, hiring and real estate services	2,008	1,994	2,023	2,037	2,074	2
Professional, scientific and technical services	10,673	10,534	10,774	10,784	10,898	11 0
Administrative and support services	5,823	5,893	5,883	5,998	5,985	6
Public administration and safety	7,784	7,825	7,790	7,917	8,077	8
Education and training	7,450	7,588	7,528	7,409	7,734	7,741
Health care and social assistance	14,026	13,895	14,060	14,135	14,269	14,430
Arts and recreation services	1,097	1,065	1,072	1,072	1,096	1,149
Other services	2,758	2,773	2,779	2,810	2,853	2,911
All industries	97,730	97,007	97,594	98,275	99,868	103,723

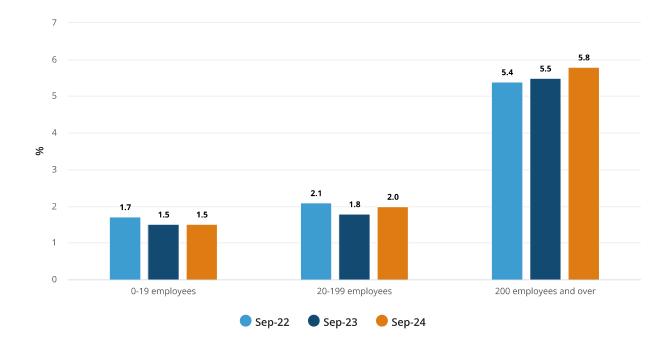
a. Some industries experience pronounced seasonality in wages and salaries paid by employers, which can affect the interpretation of change between months and industries.

Employment size

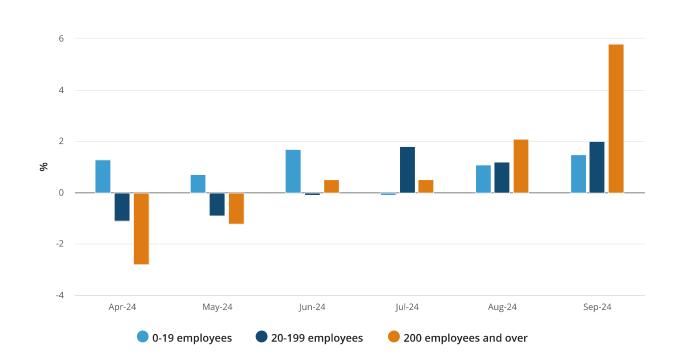
In September 2024, wages and salaries paid by employers rose in all employment size groups from August 2024.

• Employers with 200 or more employees increased by 5.8% (\$3,012m)

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by employment size



Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by employment size



Month change

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by employment size

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
0-19 employees	1.3	0.7	1.7	-0.1	1.1	1.5
20-199 employees	-1.1	-0.9	-0.1	1.8	1.2	2.0
200 employees and over	-2.8	-1.2	0.5	0.5	2.1	5.8
All sizes	-1.5	-0.7	0.6	0.7	1.6	3.9

Annual change

Annual change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by employment size

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
0-19 employees	4.6	3.5	1.8	3.5	3.0	3.0
20-199 employees	6.5	6.0	5.8	6.6	6.4	6.6
200 employees and over	8.1	8.0	8.1	8.1	7.4	7.6
All sizes	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.1	6.3

Total wages and salaries (\$m)

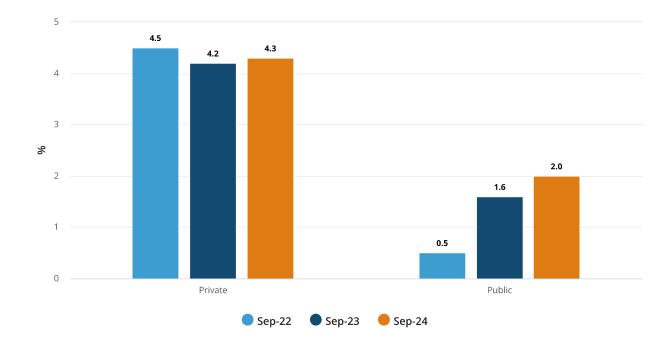
Wages and salaries paid by employers, by employment size

	Apr-24 (\$m)	May-24 (\$m)	Jun-24 (\$m)	Jul-24 (\$m)	Aug-24 (\$m)	Sep-24 (\$n
0-19 employees	21,008	21,148	21,516	21,487	21,721	22
20-199 employees	25,634	25,400	25,384	25,835	26,138	26,652
200 employees and over	51,088	50,460	50,694	50,953	52,009	55,021
All sizes	97,730	97,007	97,594	98,275	99,868	103,723

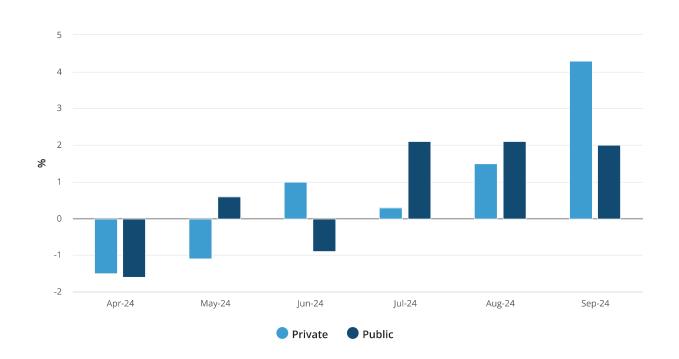
Sector

In September 2024, wages and salaries paid by employers rose in both sectors.

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by sector



Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by sector



Month change

Month change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by sector

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
Private	-1.5	-1.1	1.0	0.3	1.5	4.3
Public	-1.6	0.6	-0.9	2.1	2.1	2.0
All sectors	-1.5	-0.7	0.6	0.7	1.6	3.9

Annual change

Annual change in wages and salaries paid by employers, by sector

	Apr-24 (%)	May-24 (%)	Jun-24 (%)	Jul-24 (%)	Aug-24 (%)	Sep-24 (%)
Private	6.6	6.1	5.9	6.0	5.7	5.8
Public	8.3	7.5	6.7	9.3	8.0	8.4
All sectors	6.9	6.4	6.1	6.6	6.1	6.3

Total wages and salaries (\$m)

Wages and salaries paid by employers, by sector

	Apr-24 (\$m)	May-24 (\$m)	Jun-24 (\$m)	Jul-24 (\$m)	Aug-24 (\$m)	Sep-24 (\$n
Private	78,003	77,152	77,924	78,185	79,356	82
Public	19,728	19,856	19,670	20,090	20,512	20
All sectors	97,730	97,007	97,594	98,275	99,868	103

Data downloads

Table 1. Total wages and salaries paid by employers, percentage change

From this release, includes estimates of total wages and salaries paid by employers by industry subdivision.

<u> → Download XLSX</u> [6.35 MB]

Table 2. Total wages and salaries paid by employers, level

From this release, includes estimates of total wages and salaries paid by employers by industry subdivision.

▶ Download XLSX [3.28 MB]

All data cubes

[1.64 MB]

Changes in this release

In this release, the following sections were updated within the Methodology:

• How the data is transformed. New subsection within Creation of aggregates, Aggregate adjustment.

• Factors affecting interpretation. Additional text regarding updated data transformations within Revisions.

Methodology

Scope

This release presents experimental estimates of wages and salaries paid by active employing businesses and organisations to their employees in the Australian economy.

Geography

Data is available for:

- Australia total
- States and territories

Source

Australian Tax Office (ATO) Single Touch Payroll (STP) administrative data combined with ABS Business Register data.

Collection method

The ATO provides selected employer and employee level data from the STP system to the ABS. These data are combined with employer population and characteristics data from quarterly ABS Business Register snapshots.

Concepts, sources and methods

Wages and salaries are gross values (prior to taxation and deductions) and include wages, salary payments and allowances paid through Australian payrolls.

Employee superannuation and severance and termination payments are excluded.

History of changes

Refined imputation method included in 21 May 2024 release.

View full methodology →